

provided over a time sequence with the manifolds sequentially illuminated and extinguished over the time sequence enabling the transfer of a particle from one manifold to another. Dependent claims 36-40 describe various particular preferred embodiments of independent claim 35.

Independent claim 41 is a variation on independent claim 35 but describes how matter can be manipulated with particularity. The manifolds of optical traps are spaced over space and time by use of lines of optical traps disposed at different spatial locations to manipulate the matter. Dependent claims 42-45 again describe preferred forms of the combination of elements of independent claim 41.

Independent claim 46 is directed to a method of manipulating a biological material and is a variation on claim 27 of USPN 6,639,208. This method forms a plurality of beams of laser light, establishes a deterministic optical gradient condition for each of the laser beams and manipulates the biological material by establishing a plurality of manifolds over time and space with each of the manifolds activated and then sequentially extinguished over time and space thereby enabling manipulation of the biological material. Dependent claims 47-50 further define preferred forms of the method of claim 46.

The above discussion generally describes the inventions and how they relate to variations of the claims of USPN 6,639,208 and are not to be construed to be amendments over prior art but new combinations of elements not covered by the claims of the '208 patent.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1450. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1450. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1450.

Respectfully submitted,

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